**STATEMENT**

*Norms for Opening of Post Offices: Eefective From 1.4.1991. Branch Post Office:*

In normal Rural Areas.

*i) Population:-*

3000 population in a group of villages.

*ii) Distance:*

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kmts.

*iii) Anticipated income:*

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33-1/3% of the cost.

i) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and in accessible Rural Areas;

*Population:*

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

*ii) Distance:-*

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate.

*iii) Anticipated income:-*

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

*SUB POST OFFICES:*

In so far as Urban areas are concerned the norms for opening Post Offices are as follows:-

i) The anticipated income should not be less than the anticipated cost. At the first review, the actual income should be 5% more than the actual cost.

ii) No new post offices should be opened within 2 Kmts. of an existing Post Office (1.5 Kmts. in the cost of metropolitan and other cities with a population of 20 lakh and above.

**Irrigation Potential**

5014. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the irrigation potential created upto the end of the Sixth Five-Year-Plan;

(b) the target fixed for the creation of additional irrigation potential in the Seventh Five-Year-Plan;

(c) the extent to which this target has been achieved; and

(d) the target fixed for 1991-92 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) 675.3 lakh hectares.

(b) and (c) Against the target of 129.1 lakh hectares for Seventh Five Year Plan, the anticipated achievement is reported to be 122.1 lakh hectares.

(d) 26.23 lakh hectares.

[*Translation*]

**Opening of Post Offices and Telegraph Offices in Rural Areas**

5015. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post and telegraph offices proposed to be opened in rural areas of the country during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the criteria fixed for opening new post and telegraph offices in rural areas; and

(c) the number of post telegraph offices proposed to be opened in Rampur district of Uttar Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) While the department proposes to set up about 6000 post offices in the rural areas during 8th plans, the final picture will emerge only when the 8th plan is finalised. Department of Telecommunication has planned to provide Public Telephone at village Panchayat Headquarters during 1991-95. Phonocom Telegraph service at selected Public Telephones will be opened depending upon Public demand.

(b) The criteria fixed for opening new post offices is given in the attached Statement. Demand and feasibility are both taken into consideration for opening a Telegraph Office in rural areas.

(c) No request for opening post office in Rampur district is pending at present. However, the target for opening of post offices for Moradabad Postal Division which also includes Rampur district has been fixed at 6 (six) for 1991-92 subject to justification.

Phonocom Telegraph Service at 53 places is planned to be opened in Rampur district in 1991-92.

**STATEMENT**

Criteria/Norms fixed for opening new post offices in rural areas effective from 1.4.1991.

The following norms for opening branch post offices effective from 1-4-1991 have been adopted.

*(i) Population:*

a) In Normal areas:

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO villages).

(b) In the Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

*ii) Distance:*

a) In normal areas:-

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 kms.

b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

*(iii) Anticipated income:*

(a) In normal areas:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33-1/2% of cost.

(b) *In hilly, tribal, desert and Inaccessible areas:*

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

*Departmental sub post offices (Plan)*

Since November, 1987 Departmental sub post offices are also sanctioned under the Plan scheme subject to the following

conditions:-

(i) The scheme covers departmental sub offices to be set up on project areas, new industrial estates/townships/satellite colonies developed in the periphery of cities/urban agglomerations and other similar developments which have come up in new areas in pursuance of the plan activities of State and Central Government departments and agencies. In other words, the concept of Postal sector plan to be enlarged to cover the postal infrastructure required for the overall National Plan.

(ii) The proposed sub office should have a minimum anticipated work-load of 5 hours per day.

(iii) While departmental sub offices are expected to be financially self-supporting, rural areas a loss up to Rs. 2400 per annum is allowed (Rs. 4800/- in hilly/ backward/ tribal areas).

[*English*]

**Telecommunications System in Goa**

5016. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecommunications system in Goa is not working satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to improve the telecommunications system there;

(c) whether Government have any plan to convert all exchanges in Goa into the electronic exchanges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The performance of telecom network in Goa is generally satisfactory.

(b) However, to further improve the telecommunication system in Goa, the following steps have been taken:

(I) All the 48 exchanges have been made automatic

(ii) STD facility is being introduced in more areas progressively.

(iii) Upgradation of the internal and the external plants has been undertaken.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) It is proposed to convert all the exchanges except Panjim and Vasco into electronic by the end of 8th Plan.

**Employment to Next of Kin of Communal Riot Victims**

5017. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Union/State Government to provide employment to the next-of-kin of those killed in communal riots in U.P. and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the jobs are likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from State Govts. and will be laid on the Table of the House.